

LIVING

Nativity

SCENE

BETHEL

DEC. 20, 1964

Bethel's Live Nativity Scene Is Truly A Community Project

BETHEL — A live Nativity scene is unfolding here under chairmanship of Mrs. Charles Farrar, local dance instructor. The Nativity will be recreated on Bethel Common, Sunday, Dec. 20. A tentative schedule is to present the scene four times, at 5, 5:30, 6 and 6:30 p.m.

The peal of church bells will welcome visitors to follow the "star" to the stable.

A community project, assignments have already been undertaken as follows: erection of the stable, Troop 565, Boy Scouts, Ernest Perkins, scoutmaster; costumes, Mrs. Roland Glines and Mrs. Richard Perkins; properties, Mrs. Donald Brown and Mrs. Robert Keniston; special lighting effects, Paul Pierce; general lighting, Fred McMillin and Blake MacKay; directional stars, pupils of Crescent Park School, under supervision of Miss Helen Varner and Ralph Ryder.

Mrs. Dexter Stowell and Mrs.



Timberlake Photo
Mrs. Charles Farrar

Lincoln Fiske, liaison for church bells, and shepherds; animals, Bruce Bailey and Mrs. Norman Dock.

Mrs. Glines is in need of more material suitable for use in costumes of the shepherds and wise men, and Bruce Bailey needs a black sheep. Mrs. James Fiske and Mrs. John Frankewicz have also been assisting Mrs. Farrar.

THE OXFORD COUNTY CITIZEN, BETHEL, MAINE,

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1964

LIVING NATIVITY SCENE
TO BE SHOWN ON COMMON

Bethel is going to have a living Nativity scene on the Common this year! The courage to put wishing into action has come from Sue Farrar. Mrs. Farrar has written to local clergymen inviting the churches to participate in the presentation of four performances during the early evening of the Sunday preceding Christmas.

At her first committee meeting Monday night, she was able to announce the following responsibilities taken care of: Bruce Bailey, animals; Mrs. Roland Glines and Mrs. Richard Littlefield, costumes; Mrs. Donald Brown, properties. Others present were Mrs. Robert Keniston, Mrs. John Frankeyicz and Mrs. James Fiske. Also appointed by their churches are Mrs. Dexter M. Stowell, Mrs. Lincoln Fiske, and Mrs. Norman Dock.

As a result of the first meeting, Mrs. Glines is making a request for materials people may be able to donate permanently for costumes. Needed are brocades, tapestry materials, braid,

striped silks, and sheeting. These may be taken to her or left at the community room.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1964

PLANS FOR
NATIVITY SCENE
PROGRESSING

Plans for the live Nativity Scene to be held on the Common, Dec. 20th are progressing.

The costume committee headed by Mrs. Roland Glines is meeting this evening (Thursday) for further research and discussion. Anyone having suitable material for shepherd or wise men, is asked to contact Mrs. Glines.

The Boy Scouts under the supervision of Scoutmaster Ernest Perkins and Stanley Davis are designing the stable and manger.

CPS schoolchildren directed by Principal Ryder and Miss Helen Varner are making the stars that will be placed on all roads leading into Bethel, to direct all interested visitors to "The Manger."

Claus Weise, program director of WMTW-TV has expressed an interest in televising the pageant on Christmas Eve.

Blake MacKay and Fred McMillin are in charge of lighting while Paul Pierce has the responsibility for special lighting effects.

A live Nativity presentation has never been attempted in this area and could well become an annual event during the Christmas season.

An SOS is out for a black you know of one? see Bailey.

Living Nativity Scene To Be At Bethel December 20

Bethel's first Living Nativity Scene will be presented Sunday, Dec. 20, on the Bethel Common; and visitors from surrounding areas are invited to attend. Church bells will be rung ten minutes before each of the three presentations scheduled for 4:30 p.m., 5:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. to alert the townspeople and visitors. Guiding stars will be found on all roads leading into Bethel and up to the manger on the Common.

(Continued on Page 3)

and Glines and committee members, Mrs. John Frankevitz, Mrs. Richard Littlefield, Mrs. Lincoln Fiske, Mrs. Charles D. Merrill and Mrs. James Fiske. Miss Eileen Saunders and Miss Rebecca Andrews will assist in decorating. Mrs. David Thompson will do all the make-up. Beards for the wisemen and shepards have been donated by the Bethel Players. Mrs. Donald Brown and Mrs. Robert Kenniston are in charge of properties.

Animals used in the pageant will be loaned by Warren Hastings, Stanley Moore, Claire Batchelder and Eileen Saunders. Fencing for the animals will be done by Richard Carter, Phil Chapman, Bruce Bailey and Norman Dock.

Bell ringers include Mike Tibbets, Mike Chretien, Lincoln Fiske Jr., Seth Timberlake, Peter Kailey and Steve Hastings.

Roderick McMillan will be responsible for clearing the Common and for traffic. Sound will be controlled by Charles Farrar. Fred McMillan and Blake McKay will have charge of lights; and Paul Pierce will be in charge of special lighting effects.

The Bethel Boy Scouts built the stable. Two large Christmas trees will be placed by the manger and decorated by the American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary.

Guiding stars were made by Crescent Park School Children.

Assisting on publicity have been Mrs. Samuel Timberlake, Mrs. Donald Walker and Mrs. Robert Tift.

Living Nativity

(Continued from Page 1)

Originated by Mrs. Charles Farrar, all Bethel churches have been participating in the production of this pageant which has received the enthusiastic help and support of all Bethel people.

Amid the strains of Christmas music, and a running commentary by Robert Kenniston, the beautiful Christmas story will be enacted in a live-thirty-minute Nativity scene.

Participating in this colorful and inspiring pageant will be: Margaret Fiske, Greg Glines, Carolyn Fiske, James Fiske, Lawrence Davis, Roland Glines, James Lowe, Daniel Vogt, Claire Batchelder, Merton Brown, Timothy Hutchins, James Davis, Warren Tibbets, Allen Walker, Randy Chretien, Roger Dock, Jack Brooks, David Thurston, Larry Jacobs, Charles Jacobs, Allen Burgess, Peter Burgess, Richard Waldron, William Eames, Lindy Chayer and Douglass Farrar. It is anticipated that a cameraman from WMTW-TV will be on hand to televise the proceedings.

At the completion of the pageant, Mrs. George Taylor, assisted by her son, Bruce, will place her life-sized hand-painted nativity figures in the stable for the remainder of the Christmas season.

Bethel Girl Scout Cadettes will serve hot chocolate and coffee in the Community Room to members of the cast between pageant showings; and, after the last scene is completed, members of the cast and their families have been invited to join Mr. and Mrs. James Fiske at the New Yorker for supper.

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direction of Mrs. Bo

DEC. 20 IS DATE FOR
LIVING NATIVITY SCENE
ON BETHEL COMMON

Bethel's first Living Nativity Scene will be held on the Bethel Common on Sunday, Dec. 20. This 30-minute pageant will be presented at hourly intervals, at 4:00 p. m., 5:00 p. m., 6:00 p. m., and 7:00 p. m. Church bells will ring ten minutes before the hour to alert the town of each performance. This week, directional stars will be placed on all roads leading to Bethel to signify to area citizens and visitors to "follow the stars to the manger."

Local churches are participating in this endeavor which has met with such enthusiasm, with so many people offering to help, it would be impossible to name them all.

General chairman, Mrs. Charles Farrar, has announced that there will be an important meeting of all participants and committees for costuming and properties on Sunday at 2:00 p. m. at the Community Room.

Materials are still urgently needed either on a loan basis or donation. Wide striped material such as awning cloth, tapestry, and old sheets may be left at the Community Room on Thursday, Friday or Monday. Materials on loan should be marked for return.

SATURDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 12, 1964.

~~THE LEWISTON DAI~~



**LIVING NATIVITY SCENE
ON BETHEL COMMON
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20**

Bethel people and visitors are invited to follow the guiding stars, found on all roads leading into Bethel, to the Manger on the Common this Sunday, where three presentations of a Live Nativity Scene will take place. Listen for church bells which will chime ten minutes before each of the three presentations (instead of four as previously announced) scheduled to begin at 4:30 p. m., 5:30 p. m. and 6:30 p. m. Teams of bell ringers will include Mike Tibbets, Mike Chretien, Lincoln Fiske Jr., Seth Timberlake, Peter Kailey and Steve Hastings.

Amid the strains of Christmas music, and a running commentary by Robert Kenniston, the beautiful Christmas story will be enacted in a live thirty-minute Nativity scene. Participating in this colorful and inspiring pageant will be: Margaret Fiske, Greg Glines, Carolyn Fiske, James Fiske, Lawrence Davis, Roland Glines, James Lowe, Daniel Vogt, Claire Bachelder, Merton Brown, Timothy Hutchins, James Davis, Warren Tibbets, Allen Walker, Randy Chretien, Roger Doek, Jack Brooks, David Thurston, Larry Jacobs, Charles Jacobs, Allen Burgess, Peter Burgess, Richard Waldron, William Eames, Lindy Chayer and Douglass Farrar.

It is anticipated that a cameraman from W.M.T.W. T. V. will be on hand to televise the proceedings.

At the completion of the pageant, Mrs. George Taylor, assisted by her son, Bruce, will place her life-sized hand painted nativity figures in the stable for the remainder of the Christmas season.

Bethel Girl Scout Cadet directed by Mrs. Rodne Brooks and Mrs. E. K. Tibbets will serve hot chocolate and coffee in the Community Room to members of the east between pageant showings; and, after the last scene is completed, members of the cast and their families have been invited to join Mr. and Mrs. James Fiske at the New Yorker for supper.

Costuming for the cast is under the direction of Mrs. Roland Glines and committee members, Mrs. John Frankevitz, Mrs. Richard Littlefield, Mrs. Lincoln Fiske, Mrs. Charles D. Merrill and Mrs. James Fiske. Miss Eileen Saunders and Miss Rebecea Andrews will assist in decorating. Mrs. David Thompson will do all the makeup. Beards for the wisemen and shepherds have been donated by the Bethel Players. Mrs. Donald Brown and Mrs. Robert Kenniston are in charge of properties.

Animals in the pageant will be loaned by Warren Hastings, Stanley Moore, Claire Bachelder and Eileen Saunders. Feeding for the animals will be done by Richard Carter, Phil Chapman, Bruce Bailey and Norman Doek.

NATIVITY PAGEANT

continued from page one

Roderick McMillin will be responsible for clearing the Common and for traffic. Sound will be controlled by Charles Farrar. Fred McMillin and Blake McKay will have charge of lights; and Paul Pierce will be in charge of special lighting effects.

The Bethel Boy Scouts, under the direction of Ernest Perkins and Stanley Davis, built the stable; and the manger was made by James Browne. Two large Christmas trees will be placed by the manger and decorated by American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary.

Guiding stars were made by Crescent Park School children under the direction of Principal Ralph Ryder and Helen Varner.

Assisting with publicity have

been Mrs. Donald Walker, Mrs. Samuel Timberlake and Mrs. Robert Tiffet.

Originated by Mrs. Charles Farrar, the production of this pageant has had the whole-hearted help and support of the Bethel people. Through their combined efforts, working and sharing together, Bethel's first Living Nativity Scene will be presented to the community.

NORWAY AND SOUTH PARIS, MAINE, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1964

PRESENT LIVE NATIVITY SCENE



BETHEL—Portraying the Three Wise Men in the Living Nativity Scene which will be enacted on the common in Bethel next Sunday afternoon are pictured here, left to right: Roland Glines, Lawrence Davis and James Fiske. There will be three performances; one every hour starting at 4:30.

The towns first living nativity scene will be presented Sunday on the Common, and visitors from surrounding areas are invited to attend.

Church bells will be rung ten minutes before each of the three presentations scheduled for 4:30, 5:30, and 6:30 to alert the townspeople and visitors. Guiding stars will be found on all roads leading into Bethel and up to the manger on the Common.

Originated by Mrs Charles Farrar, all Bethel churches have been participating in the production of this pageant which has received the enthusiastic help and support of all Bethel people.

Amid the strains of Christmas music, and a running commentary by Robert Keniston, the Christmas story will be enacted in a live thirty-minute Nativity scene. Participating in the colorful and inspiring pageant will be:

Margaret Fiske, Greg Glines, Carolyn Fiske, James Fiske, Lawrence Davis, Roland Glines, James Lowe, Daniel Vogt, Claire Batchelder, Merton Brown, Timothy Hutchins, James Davis, Warren Tibbets, Allen Walker, Randy Chretien, Roger Dock, Jack Brooks, David Thurston, Larry Jacobs, Charles Jacobs, Allen Burgess, Peter Burgess, Richard Waldron, William Eames, Lindy Chayer and Douglass Farrar.

Stars To Guide Way To Bethel Nativity Scene Tonight

BETHEL — Stars made by schoolchildren will guide the way Sunday to the Manger on Bethel Common where the Nativity will be enacted at 4:30, 5:30 and 6:30 p.m.

Ten minutes before each 30 minute portrayal begins church bells will ring. The Nativity scene has been in preparation several weeks, and represents activity by the schools, churches, and other community groups and individuals.

Appropriate music and a commentary by Robert Keniston have been recorded to accompany the pageant. In the cast, as principals, are Miss Margaret Fiske, Gregory Glines, Carolyn and James Fiske, Lawrence Davis and Roland Glines.

Portraying shepherds are James Lowe, Daniel Vogt, Claire Bachelder, Merton Brown, Timothy Hutchins, James Davis, Warren Tibbetts, Allen Walker, Randall Chretien, Roger Dock, Jack Brooks, David Thurston, Larry and Charles Jacobs, Allen and Peter Burgess, Richard Waldron, William Eames, Linwood Chayer and Douglas Farrar.

Bell ringers are, Michael Tibbetts, Michael Chretien, Lincoln Fiske Jr., Seth Timberlake, Peter Kailey and Stephen Hastings.

Following the final presentation, Mrs. George Taylor and son Bruce will place her life-size, painted Nativity figures in the stable replica for the remainder of the holiday season.

Between presentations, the cast will be served hot chocolate and coffee by the Girl Scout Cadettes at the Community Room.

Mrs. Charles Farrar is coordinator of the project.



Lighting The Way

Members of Miss Helen Varner's sixth grade at Crescent Park School, Bethel, hold stars they have made to guide visitors to the community's Nativity program at the Common Sun-

day. From left are William Young, Elaine Conner, Lisa Farrar, Karen Brown and Grace Crockett. (Photo by Area Correspondent Natalie Timberlake)

OF PAGEANT
MTW-TV, CHAN. 8
HT

Part of The Living Nativity Scene will be presented on Channel 8, Mt. Washington TV, Christmas Eve at 8 p. m. and midnight.

And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.--St. Luke 2:16



Bethel's first Living Nativity Scene, memorably presented Sunday on the Bethel Common, was a tremendous success, being viewed by an estimated crowd of 1,000 people. All Bethel churches participated; and the success of this impressive pageant can be attributed to the support of all Bethel people.

Solemn chimes of church bells, rung ten minutes before each of the three presentations, found crowds hurrying to the Manger on the Common, while participants of the pageant waited devoutly and proudly nearby. The spirit of the occasion was in the air! Christmas music started with "What Child Is This," as Mary, Joseph and the Infant arrived at the stable. Next, in adoration, came the shepherds up a lighted

The Living Nativity Scene which attracted large crowds at its three presentations on the Bethel Common last Sunday afternoon.

pathway, to the strains of "Joy to the World." Staunchly, the Wise Men marched up to the music of "We Three Kings of Orient Are," to offer their gifts. The Scene was appropriately narrated at intervals, and ended with the enlightening phrase, worth repeating, as follows:

May we all pause and reflect from time to time during this Christmas season, that we are celebrating not only a happy holiday where we give and receive gifts, but, above all, the most important single event in all history, the birth of Jesus Christ.

To the tunes of "Go Tell It To the Mountain," the Scene came to a close. All who saw it were deeply impressed and are hopefully anticipating that the Scene will become an annual occurrence.

Colorful and bright costumes representing weeks of preparation, and artistic make-up, were a tribute to arduous workmanship; and the final effect glowed under the pageant lights amid the surrounding blanket of newly fallen snow. Even the animals, the wooly sheep including the black one, the calves, burro, cow and horse standing quietly nearby seemed to be awe-inspired by it all.

Bethel people can be duly proud of their fine contribution to the Christmas season: Bethel's first Living Nativity Scene.

CARD OF THANKS

I wish to express my sincere gratitude to all churches, school children, Gould students, organizations and individuals who so willingly gave of their time and talents and made the first Annual Living Nativity possible in our community.

Merry Christmas.

Susan Farrar

